THE CROWLEY FAMILY AND CABIN IN MINERAL KING

1870 - John W. Crowley & his second wife, Matilda hiked into Mineral King without any trails. They went through where Atwell Mill is now located. Matilda Crowley was the first white woman in Mineral King.

1874 - Arthur Crowley spent the summer in M.K.
Sam Smith, known as Whiskey Smith, built a large, 2 story building to be used as a hotel, store and saloon.

1878 - John Crowley got a franchise from Tulare County granting him permission to build a toll road to M.K. He incorporated a company to be known as the "Mineral King Wagon and Toll Road Company" to obtain funds to build the road. Arthur Crowley was time keeper on the road until it was opened for travel on Aug. 20, 1879. John Crowley was superintendent of the road for a while. There were an average of 200 men at work, paid $20.00 per month & board for 5½ months to build the road.

1890 - Arthur Crowley bought the hotel and 5 acres of land in M.K. from Sam Smith.

1896 - Arthur started to operate the store & hotel.

1906 - The earthquake started a snow slide that destroyed the store & buildings.

1922 - Arthur built a new hotel and tent cabins on the 5 acres.

1928 - Installed an electric light plant for the hotel, the first in M.K.

1929 - Arthur sold the store & 5 acres of land and leased a strip of land 70' x 125' for 99 years and built a summer home. Arthur Crowley was PostMaster of M.K. from 1897 to 1930 when he resigned.

1905 - Water system from Spring Creek to the store & cabins installed.

1941 - Present cabin built by Roy Jackson (a son-in-law of Arthur Crowley's) on site of original summer home after original cabin was destroyed during winter of 1940 by a tree branch weighted with snow falling on the building.

Arthur Crowley spent the rest of the summer of 1879 in M.K. after the completion of the road and stayed in the valley until the day before Christmas. He ran an Assay office and ran a delivery wagon, for a short time, that summer. The Assay office was very profitable.

Arthur Crowley operated the store & hotel from 1896 to 1929 every summer very profitably.

Mary Trauger & her husband were the first persons to climb Sawtooth. Arthur Crowley first climbed Sawtooth in 1874 and climbed it at least once almost every summer until 1931.

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